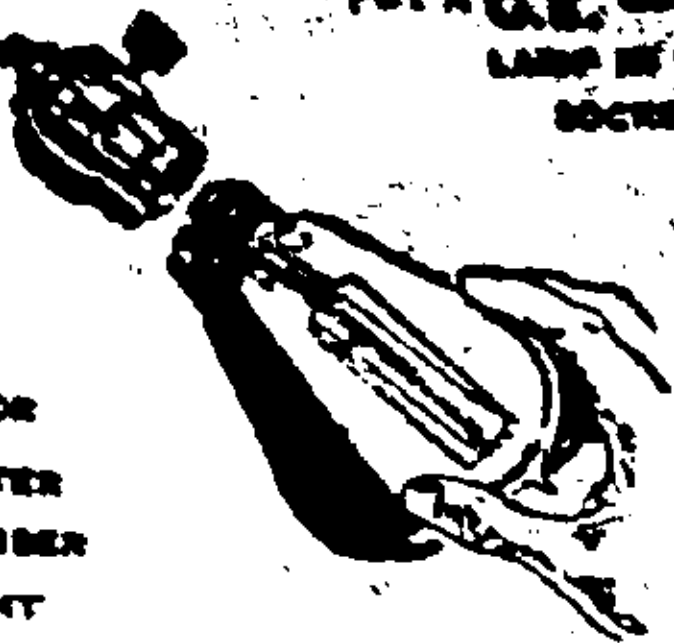


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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1914

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE SPA AGREEMENT.

EFFECT ON GERMAN PEOPLE.

Paris, April 7.
After the signature of the Spa Agreement, the German Plenipotentiary declared that the measures adopted will tend to tranquillise the spirit of the German people. *Havas*

BAGDAD RAILWAY SERVICE RESUMED.

Paris, April 7.
Traffic on the Bagdad Railroad has been resumed. Taurus Mountain can now be crossed. A train service is possible as far as Nassibin, 150 kilometres from Mossul. Work has been pushed forward with a view to opening the line to the Persian Gulf. A limited number of trains can get as far as Tekrit. *Havas*

PARIS SOCIALIST DEMONSTRATION.

Paris, April 7.
A great Socialist demonstration was held in Paris in honour of M. Jaures and in reprobation of his assassination. It proved less imposing than was expected, the public generally being apathetic. A meeting which was intended to follow the demonstration was forbidden by the police. *Havas*

M. PADEREWSKI IN PARIS.

Paris, April 7.
M. Paderewski, the Polish Premier, has arrived in Paris to plead his country's cause and justify Poland's claims and aspirations. *Havas*

FLIGHT FROM PARIS TO BRUSSELS.

Paris, April 7.
The Farman aero-bus Goliath, conveying eight passengers, left near Paris and landed three hours afterwards at Brussels. *Havas*

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(From Our Own Correspondent)

JOYOUS STRAITS PASSENGERS.

Singapore, April 8.
There were remarkable scenes at the departure of the Marama to-day. Practically all the European community were present to bid farewell, including General Ridout and Hon. Mr. Maxwell, the Deputy Governor. The crowd cheered vociferously when the ship cast off. She expects to reach home in 31 days.

JAPANESE TRAINING SQUADRON.

Singapore, April 8.
The Japanese training squadron comprising the cruisers Azuma and Tokiwa has arrived here and will make a stay of four days duration.

WASHOUTS IN THE STRAITS.

Singapore, April 8.
Railway washouts owing to floods have obliged His Excellency the Governor, who is going north to the installation of the new Sultan of Perak, to abandon the journey by rail and go in a round-about way by motor car.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

BOLSHEVIST PROPAGANDA.

London, March 31.
The "Times" correspondent at Helsingfors says an organisation for propaganda in India, Persia, China, Japan and other eastern countries, has been formed at Moscow. The organisers include S. D. Mistslanzky (India), I. S. Bravins (Persia), Jussupoff (Revolution and Islamism), and Subchibey (Turkey). Besides the arrangement of conferences it is intended to publish periodicals and prepare agitators to work among the people. Many meetings will be held and proclamations issued in the languages of the countries to be exploited. Branch offices will be opened at several towns. One has already started at Orenburg. It is said that the agitators will be sent out via Tashkent. A great work of organisation it is declared will be among the Indians and Persians.

CABLE DELAYS.

London, March 31.
In the House of Commons Mr. Sugden asked what steps were being taken to lessen delays in cables between China, Japan and the United Kingdom. Mr. Pike Pease stated that certain important cables had been repaired in the last few days and cableships were now working on other interrupted cables but bad weather was hindering them. Steps were being taken to provide additional cables as quickly as possible.

NEWS BY WIRELESS.

("Daily Bulletin" Service)

PHILIPPINES INDEPENDENCE.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S SENTIMENTS.

Washington, April 8.
The U. S. Secretary for War, Mr. Baker, informed the members of the mission from the Philippines Legislature, who hope for the immediate independence of the Philippines Islands, that that hope was in President Wilson's mind when he said he believed the time had come to grant complete independence, which had been denied to the Filipino people.
Mr. Baker said he believed with President Wilson that they would be able to send home word that the American people love liberty too dearly not to desire to extend it to others.
Mr. Baker read a letter left by President Wilson when he went to Europe, which was as follows:

Washington, March 3.
Will you please express to the gentlemen of the Commission representing the Philippines Legislature my regret that I have been unable to see them personally on their arrival in Washington, as well as my hope that their mission will be a source of satisfaction to them, and that it will result in bringing about that independence set forth in the declaration of the Legislature approving the sending of the Commission to the United States.
I have been deeply gratified with the support and the encouragement received from the Filipino people and from the Philippines Legislature in the trying period through which we are passing.

We people of the United States have reasons for taking the deepest pride in the policy to support the Filipino people, and though unable to meet the Commission the Filipino people cannot be absent from my thoughts.

Not the least important labour of the Conference which now requires my attention is that of making the pathway of the weaker people of the world less perilous—a labour which should be of deep and abiding interest to the Filipino people. I am sorry that I cannot look into the faces of the gentlemen of this Mission from the Philippine Islands and tell them all that I have in mind and think of their earnest labours, and that the idea most in sight is being undertaken by the American and Filipino people for their permanent unity. I know, however, that your sentiments are mine in this regard, and that you will translate duly to them my own feelings and thoughts.

Mr. Francis Burton Harrison, Governor-General of the Philippine Islands, in a statement said that his experience of the islands had convinced him that the obstacle to independence that appeared to exist a few years ago had been cleared away.

What formal action in the granting of independence which Congress must take the Administration would present later to Congress at an opportune time. *American Wireless.*

MISSION'S THANKS.

Washington, April 8.
The Philippines Mission cabled President Wilson thanking him for his reassuring letter, which was read by Mr. Baker, Secretary for War, on the latter receiving the Mission on Friday, and wishing President Wilson success at the Peace Conference. *American Wireless.*

THE REPARATION COMMITTEE.

Paris, April 8.
The Council of Four appointed a Committee consisting of M. Loucheur, French Minister of Reconstruction; Hon. E. S. Montagu, British Secretary of State for India; and Mr. John W. Davis, American Ambassador to Great Britain, to put into definite form the proposals for the solution of the reparation question. *American Wireless.*

PRESIDENT WILSON.

ESCAPES ATTACK OF INFLUENZA.

Washington, April 8.
President Wilson is confined to his bed suffering from the effects of a severe cold.
Rear-Admiral Grant, in a cabled message to President Wilson's Secretary, Mr. Tumulty, stated that the President's personal physician had said that President Wilson caught a cold on Thursday and was unable to be about although his condition was not regarded as serious.

Paris, March 8.
Although President Wilson has been confined to his bed since Friday with a cold, the Council of Four met in the Paris "White House" as usual.

It is understood that necessary matters are being referred to President Wilson in his sick room, but the members of the Council consult with President Wilson personally when the occasion arises. *American Wireless.*

PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT.

Paris, March 8.
President Wilson's physician issued a statement at four o'clock on Sunday to the effect that President Wilson came very near having a serious attack of influenza, but that by going to bed he had apparently escaped, though he was necessarily confined to his bed. *American Wireless.*

PRESIDENT WILSON REPRESENTED BY COLONEL HOUSE.

Paris, April 8.
Colonel House took President Wilson's place at the meeting of the Council of Four on Friday.
President Wilson rested comfortably during the night. *American Wireless.*

U. S. CREDITS TO ALLIES.

Washington, April 8.
The Treasury Department has announced a credit to France of \$85,000,000 and to Italy of \$25,000,000, making the total advanced to the Allies, \$9,800,990,340. *American Wireless.*

HONGKONG HOUSING QUESTION.

BIG SCHEMES IN CONTEMPLATION.

Some little time ago, we intimated that the Hongkong Government, in dealing with the housing question, intended taking steps for the creation of new property, which, it was considered, would tend to alleviate the present situation to a very considerable extent. Long before this, His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, when speaking in the Legislative Council on Lieutenant Olitzky's report on overcrowding in Hongkong, stated quite frankly that the task of correcting the errors of the past was one that would have to be faced. Subsequent official statements in Council showed that the Government had the matter in hand, that it had already taken certain steps and that further measures were in contemplation.

We now learn that His Excellency Mr. Claud Severn has, during the period of his administration of the Government, been very actively engaged in the matter, and has represented the urgency of the question to the Secretary of State. Proceeding on the basis that the problem is one, the dealing with which ought not to be delayed by the cumbersome process of appointing a Commission, certain recommendations of a most comprehensive character have been submitted to the Imperial Government, which has notified its approval thereof in principle. It is probable, therefore, that the new Governor, when he arrives in England, will be acquainted with the full facts of the situation and the recommendations proposed. Thus he would be in a position, when he arrives in the Colony, to tackle the question without delay.

As the matter is one requiring full consideration by the Imperial authorities, it is not possible now to indicate the details of the proposals put forward, but, from what we can gather, the whole scheme has been most carefully thought out from every standpoint, and, if it is put into operation, it will be the biggest undertaking on which the Government has embarked. The needs of all sections of the community will be dealt with, so that it will be possible to secure ample housing accommodation at reasonable rentals.

This news will be received with feelings of much relief by the whole community, who will be glad to know that His Excellency has been fully alive to the urgency of the present problem.

DAY BY DAY.

A free entertainment of juggling was witnessed by a number of Chinese workmen in the Kowloon Docks yesterday. The performers were a Chinese workman and an Indian watchman, and between them they produced as clever a trick as could be desired. The Chinese workman having declared that he had nothing about his clothing, it was for his co-juggler to amaze the spectators by producing a series of articles seemingly from nowhere. From the cap of the Chinese, an innocent-looking article, a number of iron rivets were brought forth. A further quantity of the same articles was produced from under the man's clothing, while, by the same mysterious means, more rivets came out from under his trousers. Now, this was all very clever, but the applause which in the natural course of things would be a sequel, did not come, and why? For the simple reason that the Chinese was an unwilling partner to the entertainment, and the rivets which were necessary for the trick did not belong to him, but to the Dock Co. The Indian watchman, after he had completed his trick, gave his partner into the custody of the Police and was also the means of getting him imprisoned this morning for three weeks.

WORK THAT NEEDS DOING.

LECTURE BY HON. MR. POLLOCK, K.C.

An address was delivered, last evening, by the Hon. Mr. H. R. Pollock, K.C., acting Attorney General, to the members of the Church of England Men's Society, at St. Paul's College, the subject being "Work That Needs Doing". The address encompassed many of the problems of the Colony, such as the housing question, control of rents, new hospitals, lunatic asylums, wireless connection, land development and social matters.

The speaker prefaced his address by stating that he was not speaking in any representative capacity, but as a member of the community. The most important problem, he said, that had to be dealt with in the Colony was the housing problem, which might be approached from many points of view. The provision of relief by the erection of new houses in entirely newly opened districts was a question that must be considered from two different aspects. The Government might build houses, as they did for their subordinate officers, but he did not think that was the best scheme. The better way would be for the Government to give some financial assistance and that might be done in conjunction with a system of building societies. The speaker then quoted extensively from Salisbury's Laws of England to explain how the building society system was worked. For ease of construction the houses should be of a standard type and built of standard materials and a maximum rent should be fixed. It was essential too, that cheap means of access be provided to the building area. To keep speculators out there should be some restrictions against alienation. With regard to the already settled districts, he thought something drastic should be done. Mr. Pollock then referred to the raising of rents and to the "trafficking" in houses and the question of the control of rents and quoted the article signed "K.C." which appeared in the Hongkong Telegraph on Saturday last, to show what was being done in England. In the Straits Settlements, he said there was an ordinance providing for the control of rents, so why not adopt some such system in Hongkong and follow in those footsteps? He was of opinion that there should be an ordinance, the same as the Peak Ordinance, applicable to other places in the Colony and residence in those places should be subject to permission. The suggestion that the Pokfulam drainage area should be thrown open to building should be followed and other possible schemes included the development of Mount Cameron by a tramway up Wanchai Gap, the development of the West by a road running up High West with a tramway running up from West Point. The unofficial members of the Legislative Council could help the Government by joining in a request to the Secretary of State to allow the flotation of short term loans which would allow of a steady policy of improvement irrespective of fluctuations in revenue. With regard to the valuation of land, the speaker pointed out that when the Government wished to acquire land it was always very dear but the same land was never valued so high when it was valued for probate purposes. Turning to hospitals, Mr. Pollock said the hospital accommodation in the Government Civil Hospital was convenient for Chinese but it was not convenient for Europeans. There should be another hospital for Europeans in a better and less crowded locality. There should also be a European hospital in Kowloon—the Chinese already had a hospital there—the Kwong Wah Hospital. The staff of medical officers and sisters in the existing hospitals needed to be increased. Further, a new lunatic asylum was needed where patients could live under more humane conditions, and Kowloon would be a suitable place in which to build such an asylum. Dealing with aviation, the speaker said

To-Day's Exchange.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$3.7-10d.

The Weather.

Forecast—fine. Barometer—29.85. Temperature 2 p.m.—74. Humidity 4 p.m.—73.

DAY BY DAY.

Charn Singh, the Indian constable who was charged with bribing another constable and entering the Government opium factory for an unlawful purpose has been committed by Mr. G. N. Grime for trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

The Howitt Phillips Company will visit the Colony shortly. The Company met with great success in Shanghai, where they had the biggest house on record to witness "Damaged Goods", which play will be included in their repertoire when they come here.

The Cantonese shareholders are actively preparing for the election of the president and the vice-president and the members of the Board of Directors of the Canton-Hankow Railway. Many persons wish to be elected president or a director, and they are purchasing the votes from the shareholders. At present, the price of votes is \$50 a thousand. A share of stock is now valued at about one dollar, the par value of the shares being five dollars each. *Canton Times.*

"It is a case where a reformatory is wanted in Hongkong," said Inspector Boulger in bringing a charge of snatching against a small boy. Before Mr. R. E. Lindsell to-day. The boy, it was said, was a hopeless case and had got out of control. His mother would have nothing more to do with him, but would leave him to be dealt with by the Magistrate. Mr. Lindsell to the boy: "Your mother says you are a young scoundrel, and she cannot keep you under control. You will go to jail for three weeks, with 12 strokes of the birch."

It was noted that Hongkong should possess an aerodrome. Further, the present wireless station was inadequate and not of sufficiently high power for commercial purposes. Hongkong should be connected up with a wireless chain, such as he referred to in a speech on the subject in 1912. Proceeding, Mr. Pollock suggested that there should be an industrial institution for Chinese women in the Colony, and pointed out that many women found it difficult to make a living. A suitable site for such an institution might be found in Kowloon. He then referred to what he termed "The three Cs" viz Children, Clocks and Cinemas. There should be rooms provided for children in the neighbourhoods where their parents work in factories. With regard to cinemas, Mr. Pollock said the question of censoring cinema films was under consideration and would very shortly come up for legislation. He did not think there could be any question in anybody's mind that the films for cinemas certainly ought to be censored by some authority in the Colony. They all know how very much these cinema exhibitions were patronised and therefore it was extremely important, as they appeal to and were seen by a large number of people, that they should be subject to censorship.

Turning to the subject of clocks, there should be a big clock in Kowloon, at the railway station. Other sites had been suggested but he thought Kowloon would be the most conspicuous. With regard to railways, the Hongkong-Canton Railway should be connected up with the Kowloon-Hankow Railway and the land between Kowloon and Canton should be developed and a motor road built.

At the conclusion of the lecture, the speaker was loudly applauded and was awarded a hearty vote of thanks.

NO FANCY PRICES FOR SLUMS.

CONCESSION ON HOUSING.

Dr. Addison, President of the Local Government Board, has received two important deputations on the subject of housing improvements and the clearance of slum areas in the metropolitan area, and in the course of his reply he announced an important concession by the Government in regard to financial assistance for the schemes.

The first deputation, from the London County Council, consisted of Mr. Walker, Chairman of the Housing Committee, Mr. Hume, and Dr. Scott Liddell. The second deputation represented a conference of the Greater London local authorities.

The County Council feel that before their big housing schemes can be satisfactorily carried out two conditions should be complied with:

"That the deficiency grant promised by the Government upon the erection of new working-class dwellings should include dwellings erected under a rehousing obligation. That is, where the Council demolishes slums, and erects improved dwellings in their place, it should be entitled to as favourable terms from the Government as when it erects dwellings upon land not previously built upon.

"That the Government should pass legislation to cheapen and accelerate the acquisition of insanitary property. The Council naturally objected to paying fancy prices to slum landlords; it asked the Government to carry out its promise, and at the same time, made suggestions to the Government as to the lines of remedial legislation.

The deputation laid particular stress on these two conditions. Dr. Addison announced that the Treasury had agreed to financial assistance for the clearance and improvement of insanitary areas and for rehousing on the same terms as for the provision of new houses; the assistance would be restricted to future expenditure and to cases where the Board were satisfied that the requirements could not be met simply by the provision of new houses.

This concession, being of first-rate importance, was greeted with much satisfaction by the deputation.

As to the second condition, Dr. Addison stated that the Government had decided to introduce legislation for this purpose. He asked that the detailed proposals of the County Council should be placed before him at the earliest opportunity in order that they might be considered in the preparation of the necessary legislation. A new Housing Bill was already in an advanced stage.

The Minister urged on the deputation the importance of proceeding with their housing proposals with the utmost dispatch, and told them that he was anxious that we should pass beyond the stage of schemes and get houses built and insanitary areas dealt with without delay.

The second deputation, representing various authorities of Greater London, came on the question of the measures which should be taken for dealing with the housing problem of London and Greater London as a whole. The deputation were agreed that the problem must be dealt with as a whole; the only question at issue was the precise measures which should be adopted.

One section advocated the creation of a special ad hoc housing authority, with executive powers, for Greater London. The other section thought that the situation would be met by the formation of a joint committee.

Dr. Addison arranged that representatives of the deputation should confer with the officials of the Local Government Board with a view to reaching a solution satisfactory to both parties. He urged that the conferences of the various authorities which had already been meeting should proceed as quickly as possible to formulate their proposals.

"SUBURBAN SNOBBERY."

A recommendation was considered from the Parks and Allotments Committee of the L.C.C. recently to the effect that the cultivation of the allotments provided by the Council at parks and open spaces under its control be permitted up to and including Jan. 1, 1920. Mr. Gantrey said the allotment system had caused people to know one another better, and had broken down suburban snobbery, quite apart from the question of food production. The recommendation was adopted.

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PROHIBITION APOSTLES.

A BRITISH PROTEST.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.

The Government of Great Britain has formally protested to the State Department against passports being given any American who desires to preach Prohibition in England. No explanation has been given by State Department officials as to why the request was made. It is inferred that the English authorities do not desire temperance agitation until industrial conditions have been approximately restored to normal and the country regained a pre-war basis.

The fact that Great Britain objected to the coming of temperance workers was developed when the Rev. D. M. Gardier, president of the California Dry Federation, applied for a passport. He is the head and front of all anti-temperance movements in the Far West. He is active and enthusiastic. He desired to go abroad and urge world-wide Prohibition upon the delegates to the Peace Conference. This was heralded all over the country and advocates of temperance believed that something might be accomplished.

When Dr. Gardier applied for a passport it was refused. He was informed by Acting Secretary Polk that ocean traffic is heavy, vessels are required for carrying supplies and it was desirable to limit passenger travel in every way possible. It was made plain to the doctor that he would not be permitted to go abroad, but no other reason than transportation congestion was assigned for the refusal of passports.

Dr. Gardier immediately changed his plans. He applied for a passport to visit Scotland and participate in the campaign then being waged for local option in that country. He was refused passports for the same reasons were given as in the first instance. An appeal for assistance then

was made by Dr. Gardier to Representative Randall, the only straight prohibition member of Congress. Mr. Randall went to the State Department and sought to help the temperance advocate. He was unable to do so, and Dr. Gardier has left for his home in California.

It subsequently developed that the refusal of passports was based on the general protest of the British Government. An entirely new Prohibition Enforcement Bill has been drafted by a sub-committee of the House Judiciary Committee and will be presented to the committee tomorrow. The measure makes the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the Department of Justice responsible for enforcement of the Wartime Prohibition Law, eliminating the features said to be favoured by the Anti-Saloon League for setting up an Enforcement Commission.

Members of Congress believe the league will fight for an enforcement commission to the floor of the House. To-day Representative Dyer of Missouri, a member of the Judiciary Committee, declared the Barkley Bill, as originally drawn, would have provided a way for the Anti-Saloon League officials to compose the enforcement commission.

"I believe as originally drawn," said he, "the bill was along lines recommended by the Anti-Saloon League leaders."

"So far as I am concerned, I am willing to turn over to the Anti-Saloon League the enforcement of the law, amend the bill and give them the right to search for whisky wherever they please."

Mr. Dyer wants an amendment written into the enforcement act that would give the right of search.

Instead of the Barkley bill appropriation necessary to finance the commission, the sub-committee refused to allow any appropriation whatever.

All enforcement, under the new law, must be carried on as in other matters made punishable

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authorities.

The sub-committee has tempered the proposed bill as to closing up nuisances, by providing that a temporary writ of injunction shall issue if satisfactory affidavit is filed with the court that a nuisance exists. No reference is made to the property right in whisky which was denied in the bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Sheppard, leader of the Anti-Saloon League force in that body.

TITLED MAJOR DEAD.

Sir E. Montague Nelson, Mayor of Warwick, died recently at the age of 78. He was head of the firm of Messrs. Nelson Bros., and the Nelson Dale Co., and was one of the pioneers of the New Zealand meat importation. He was a Liveryman of the City of London. A strong Unionist in politics, at one time he contested Warwick against Mr. Speaker Peel.

AFTER 51 YEARS.

The Japan Gazette learns that that Rev. Father A. Pettier, of the Mission Apostolique, Yokohama, is leaving Japan. By the French mail steamer Andre Lebon, after 51 years' residence in Japan. He is returning home in consequence of almost total blindness, one eye being sightless owing to cataract and the other being almost useless. It is hoped that he may be relieved somewhat by an operation in Paris.

DICKENS ANNIVERSARY.

The 107th anniversary of the birth of Charles Dickens occurred recently and his grave in the "Poets' Corner" of Westminster Abbey was covered with wreaths and garlands from admirers of his work in different parts of the world. Master Philip Dickens, a great-grandson of the novelist, aged three, laid flowers on the tomb. Sailors and soldiers from the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand were present.

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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1919.

FRAUGHT WITH DANGER.

Of the issues which still await settlement that of Russia is the most serious. The problem of Russia is no longer domestic, but imperatively one concerning Europe and the world. German influence and Bolshevik fanaticism have produced a condition in Russia that is without precedent in history. Disunited Russia is a menace to the peace of the world. Not satisfied with the chaotic condition of their own country, the Bolsheviks wish to bring about a similar chaos in all other lands. Communism of the most blood-thirsty character is their apparent ideal. The idea held by ill-informed persons that it is the intention of the Entente to leave Russia to the mercy of the Bolsheviks is absurd. The problem, however, is how best to render service to the great number of Russians who hold in abhorrence Leninism. It is known that the anti-Bolsheviks of all classes are consolidating into one powerful group and the salvation of Russia may come through them.

It would be incredible short-sightedness on the part of the Allies to restrict themselves to half measures in Russia. They are face to face with a very serious situation. The Bolsheviks on the Murmansk and Archangel fronts are a formidable force. We have not as yet realised what is at stake if the peril is not instantly grappled with. We claim to have sent troops to Russia as allies of the Russians, and with sole object of saving them from the Bolsheviks. This cannot be attained by a small expeditionary force. To save Russia the Entente must act promptly and in full strength. It may be a good while before we shall have a full and truthful account of what is taking place in Russia. Sir Ernest Shackleton, who has returned from Murmansk and Archangel, where the Bolsheviks have amassed immense forces, says the position of the Allied forces is undoubtedly an anxious one. On the Archangel front, the Bolsheviks are making a determined effort to push the Allies into the sea. The Allied troops are, therefore, likely to have a hard time. The situation appears to be a very complicated and recalls General Townsend's experience at Kut. The position apparently is that Murmansk, which is a warm-water port, cannot be evacuated until Archangel has been deserted by Allied troops.

It is to be regretted that the proposed Allied intervention, based upon the Japanese and Chinese armies, was not allowed to develop by troops proceeding across Siberia on a large scale last summer. We now witness a recrudescence of fighting in Siberia, and the reports coming from that quarter are heartening. In the course of the latest offensive we are told that six thousand prisoners and much war material were captured. The Siberian Army seems to be strong enough and may be expected to see the thing through in Siberia. But what of the North Russian situation?

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

VOLUNTEER DRILLS.

A considerable measure of interest has been aroused among local members of the Defence Corps at the announcement contained in a telegram from our Singapore correspondent to the effect that the drills for Straits Volunteers in the future have been fixed at 44 annually in the case of men below 41 years and at 24 to those over that age. This seems a very sensible arrangement, and one which it might well be worth while copying locally. It is true that since the Armistice, drills have not been nearly so numerous as they were during war-time, and that there is less stringency observed in the enforcement of the regulations. For this relief much appreciation is felt on the part of those who, during the past four years and more, have fallen willingly in with the defence arrangements which were considered necessary, even though compliance therewith often led to serious business inconvenience. So long as the necessity existed, no-one wanted to shirk his duty, which, after all was as nothing compared to what many other men at home and elsewhere were called upon to do. But with the war ended, a considerable modification in the scheme has been made possible, and to the credit of the authorities it must be said that they have quickly acted upon that fact.

ABOLISH CONSCRIPTION.

But has the time not come for a systematic overhauling of the whole duties of the Defence Corps? At home, the armies raised by conscription are gradually being demobilised and a new Volunteer Army being created. The same principle ought now to be applied to the Hongkong Defence Corps. It should be demobilised, stripped of its conscriptive character and a reversion made to the old Volunteer Force for these—and we have no doubt they are many—who are anxious to continue their military training. Then it would be advisable to set a limit to the number of drills per year, as has been done in the Straits, so that a man joining would know exactly what obligations he was assuming. And 44 drills a year are none too many, for a man could not well be a good Volunteer on less, and in a matter of this kind not to be a good man is almost as bad as being no man at all. The Straits scheme for men over 41 seems to be based on one drill per week, allowing for holidays, and to that surely no good Britisher could object. Forced service is not at all to the British liking, and that is the best of reasons why the conscriptive element should be done away with at the earliest possible moment.

CAPTAIN FRYATT.

A Reuter telegram, received two days ago, informs us of a message from Berlin saying that a Commission appointed to investigate the case of Captain Fryatt has declared that the shooting did not violate International Law but it regretted the rapidity with which the sentence was carried out. Every Britisher has long ago formed his own opinion as to this act of barbarism on the part of Germany and we thought, from the official information received in connection with the affair since its occurrence, that the British Government had also no doubt that it was murder pure and simple. But it appears that it has taken the German authorities—assuming it is a German Commission—something like two years to find out that, according to International Law, the act was justified. It may be said that it was necessary to investigate the matter in Germany before a decision could be arrived at. If that be so, the first necessity would appear to have been to make it clear exactly who the investigators were. Reuter leaves us very much in doubt on this point. With his usual brevity when cabling such news, he gives no details, and, taking into consideration the intense public feeling that was aroused, we are of the opinion that a fuller report of the details of the findings of the Commission and of its personnel should have been vouchsafed. In the meantime, in spite of the decision cabled, our views as to the dastardly conduct of the German officials responsible for the "execution" (as we suppose we must now term it) have not been changed, neither do we think will there be any change of opinion on the matter by Britishers in this part of the world.

DAY BY DAY.

GLORY SELDOM TROUBLES A MAN WHILE HE LIVES, BUT AFTER THE FUNERAL IT COMES AROUND AND KEEPS THE FLIES OFF HIS MEMORY.

H. M. S. Suffolk was flying her paying-off pennant this morning. She is homeward bound.

We understand that Mess Cheung has taken some excellent photographs of "Pinky and the Fairies." They are now on sale at his studio.

Mr. Knott, of Messrs Floquet and Knott, leaves to-day by the French Mail on a business trip to Europe. Mr. Knott, who has been in Hongkong for the past eight years, is accompanied by Madame Knott.

We are asked to remind the Portuguese community of the Mission which takes place this evening at 8 o'clock, given by a Portuguese Jesuit Father in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Blue Funnel s.s. Antiochus, with the repatriated Germans on board, left the Harbour this afternoon at about half past one and was followed shortly afterwards by H. M. S. Suffolk.

The Water Return shows that on April 1st the reservoirs in the City and Hill District contained 1,318.10 million gallons, compared with 694.94 million gallons on the corresponding date last year. The figures for Kowloon were 246.10 and 170.86 million gallons respectively.

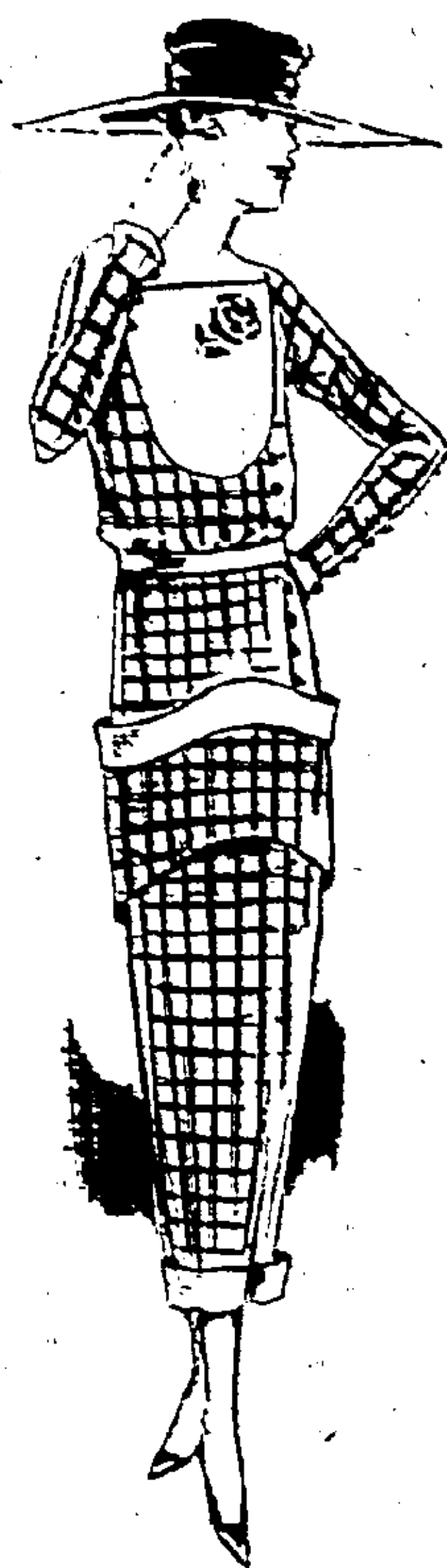
During last week the following cases of communicable disease were notified:—Plague, ten (all fatal); cerebro-spinal meningitis, fifteen (eight fatal); and one fatal case each of enteric and small-pox. Yesterday three further cases of plague (two fatal) and four of cerebro-spinal meningitis (one fatal) were reported.

The German Chinese Middle School in Canton will be allowed to exist as usual, as Mr. Mell, the Principal of the school, has been exempted from repatriation, according to a notice issued by that institution. Official sources say the future of the school has not yet been definitely settled. It may be allowed to remain for the time being.

"You deserve to lose your coal for being such a fool," Mr. R. E. Lindsell told a Chinese who, while delivering a load of coal to a house, left his truck unattended in Morrison Street with the result that when he returned he found that a thief had been there before him and had carried away the four baskets of coal. He had brought an accusation of the theft against a Chinese whom he found in Aberdeen Street later on the same day carrying an empty basket which from certain marks he recognised as being one of those stolen. The accused Chinese told Mr. Lindsell that he was hired by a certain man to carry the coal, and as there was a possibility of truth in what he said, the Magistrate ordered his discharge.

"Yesterday at 3 p.m., in Queen's Road West, the defendant was walking side by side with me when I felt a movement in the pocket in which was my purse. I turned round, and saw the purse being passed on to another man. I clutched the defendant's arm, then seized him in a close embrace." This story was told in the Police Court to-day. Mr. R. E. Lindsell turned the narrative into another channel:—"Why didn't you seize the other man?"—"He ran away."—"Of the defendant Mr. Lindsell asked:—"Have you any witness?"—"Yes, there is Lum Sing. He will speak for me, and with him as witness I fear nothing in the world." All eyes in the Court were strained to catch a sight of this wonderfully staunch friend. He came forth and said:—"Yes, my friend is a respectable man." This tribute gave Mr. Lindsell no other alternative than to discharge the defendant.

MODERN MODES.



A SMART DRESS FOR SPRING WEAR.

Designs of the Moment by "Sacha."

Sport fabrics are having a tremendous vogue—and special attention appears to have been given to models for sport wear, although I have no doubt many of them will be worn by members of the fair sex who never handle a tennis racket, golf club, canoe paddle or any of the paraphernalia used by the sport devotee. However, be that as it may—the new models are unusually attractive. Soft fine wools in plaided effects are in high favour for separate skirts to be worn with silk or wool jerseys. Among a multitude of models I was especially attracted by one featuring a box-plaited skirt of fine serge plaided in large blocks of fawn colour shading from light to dark. It was so plaited that the upper part of the box-plaits were of the dark shade—the lighter blocks showing when the wearer was walking. With this skirt was worn a coat of fawn-coloured knitted silk jersey, finished at the bottom with a fringe of the silk; a similar fringe finished the long shawl collar. Another model showed a skirt made of black and white plaided serge; the top of the box-plaits were black—the white showing underneath. With this was worn a white silk sweater, and demure and unsophisticated as this model may appear to the mental vision of the reader—it was more striking in effect than other models in flamboyant colours. Make no mistake—there is nothing either dull or tame about a magpie combination, if cleverly handled. This is especially evident in evening models—for it is a well-known fact that a handsome evening gown featured in a combination of white and black has frequently attracted more attention than those in colourful hues. Going back to the sport models—there was another with skirt of black Pebblette—a silk in a heavy tricot weave—with which was worn a coat of white silk stitched in black silk, giving it a quilted or maitresse effect. There was nothing specially attractive about the coat, except its novelty—and this hardly seemed to pay for the enormous amount of work the stitching demonstrated. One of the "really truly" new sport wools is Chanella—a jersey fabric in rather heavy-ribbed effect. It is exceedingly attractive—and many modish models are featured in it.

Separate skirts of sports silks are worn with waists of fine cotton voile. A skirt of Fan-ta-si plaided in peppermint pink and white was made with a set-in pocket on either side and each pocket was outlined with small

buttons of white pearl. The deep girdle of the silk was closed with pearl buttons and bound button holes. The blouse was a dainty affair of cobwebby batiste and filé lace. The box coat worn with this skirt and blouse was a natty affair of plain peppermint pink Fan-ta-si. There is, apparently, no end to the uses to which the sport silks are put. Hats, parasols, waistcoats, vests, collars and ties are all featured in them. Knitted skirts for sport wear are among the new-comers. Among the prominent transparent silks are Pierette crepe, splendora crepe, Georgette and indestructible voile. These crepes are all used in combination with chiffon taffetas and soft satins. There is also a tremendous quantity of net employed in the make-up of evening, dinner and dancing frocks. Callot net is displayed in over one hundred different shades—ranging from the most subdued to the most colourful.

The new printed chiffons are unquestionably lovely. Those in pompadour colourings and designs make exquisite dancing dresses for youthful wearers. Nothing could be more charming than one with a white ground printed in small clusters of blue and pink flowers made over an underdress of white chiffon taffeta, with a simple corsage bouquet of blue and pink roses repeating the colours printed in the chiffon.

Pink crepe veiled with silver embroidered net were the fabrics used for charming dancing frock. For afternoon and restaurant wear there are quite a number of models featured in bisquit coloured crepe embroidered in beads, and trimmed with fringes of beads similar to those used in the embroidery. Among the Paquin models is shown a number of simple evening dresses fashioned from satin faced crepe. The charm of the clever draperies on these dresses is heightened by the glimpses one gets of the contrasting colours. Dresses of black pailletted net have a way of holding their own in season and attractive, one side being fashionable of season, and this one is no exception. They are, however, very frequently brig tened by a choux of brilliant hued satin or a cluster of flowers at the waist line. One of the loveliest of many lovely evening dresses was featured in a combination of black satin brocaded in silver and this cloth of silver. The sleeveless corsage was wonderfully attractive, one side being fashioned from the brocaded satin—and the other from the cloth of silver.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

INTERESTING QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED.

The Legislative Council meets at 11 a.m. to-morrow.

BETTER WIRELESS STATION.

1. The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak will move:—"That arrangements be made at once for the installation of a powerful commercial wireless station, capable of connecting direct with Colombo or some other station in Ceylon."

MR. ALABASTER'S QUESTIONS.

The Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster, O.B.E., will ask the following questions:—

1. As the introduction and increased use of rickshaws on the Peak footpaths has created a new danger to child life, will the Government hasten the conversion of the corner of waste ground between the Government villas and Mount Kallet Road into a suitable playground?

2. Will the Government construct on the unused lot on the north side of the Royal Courts of Justice a pavilion which can be used as a bandstand in the evenings and in the daytime as a sun and rain shelter for the amahs and children who now haunt the Cricket Ground and Court Verandahs?

3. What steps is the Government taking before the rainy season commences to save the hill and roadway below the London Mission House at Cheung Chan from being washed away?

4. What progress has been made in the work of connecting all Police Stations by telephone?

5. Why has the First Police Magistrate and Coroner been appointed to act as Director of Education in addition to his other duties when there are in the Colony two or three educationalists with previous experience of the office?

6. Has the Government made any protest against the arbitrary cancellation without notice of homeward bookings by the "Emperesses of Russia, Asia, and Japan" and the "Montague"?

7. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the serious lack of sufficient hotel accommodation in the Colony? If so, has the Government done anything to assist visitors to obtain shelter?

8. Why have there been no Legislative Council Meetings for about a month?

OTHER QUERIES.

The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak will ask:—

1. Will the Government appoint a committee of experts to inquire into and report upon:—

(a) The condition of the channel by which vessels enter the Harbour in order to proceed to their buoys or to the existing wharves.

(b) The efficiency, or otherwise, of the present Government dredger the "St. Enoch."

(c) The necessity, or otherwise, of at once ordering a modern dredging plant for constant use in this Harbour.

2. Has the report and finding of the "Civil Service Salaries Commission" been sent in to the Government yet and, if so, will the Government lay it upon the table for the consideration of the Council?

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak will move the first reading of a Bill intitled an Ordinance to authorise the British Traders Insurance Company Limited to convert its silver capital into gold. It is proposed to take this Bill through all its stages at this meeting.

FADS AND FANCIES OF DAME FASHION.

Collarless necks are in vogue. Pockets on separate skirts "follow as the day the night."

The coat of the hour is the one cut on loose box lines.

There are skirts and rumours of skirts. The coming skirt so the highest Parisian authorities claim, is to be very narrow and shorter than ever—so short that if the prediction that "age distinction in dress is to be revived," the first distinction will, necessarily, be in the length of skirts.

Silks and satins are combined with marquisette, voile, chiffon, net and sheer crepes.

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HONGKONG MEMORIALS.**ADVICE OF TWENTY
YEARS AGO.**

At the time of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, in 1897, Hongkong was faced with a problem similar to that which is now agitating the public mind. The question was how best to commemorate the Queen's reign, and, as now in regard to the war Memorial, many suggestions were put forward.

In a leading article on the subject on March 31, 1897, the *Telegraph* remarked—

"As to the purely utilitarian projects, we suggest that they should be passed over altogether. In presenting ourselves with a Public Library and Museum, whether economic or scientific or both combined, or with bath-pavilions, Jubilee roads, schools, or colleges, we are doing nothing at all appropriate to the occasion. We are not giving or presenting anything. In private life, on such occasions, we make presents to the person whom we desire to honour or we get a portrait painted or a monument erected, but the portrait is not retained as an ornament in our own drawing-rooms. It is either presented to the object, or to some public institution, where all the world may see and enjoy it; neither is a monument erected in private grounds. If the Colony really wants a road round the island, or an enlarged City Hall, or a new Clock Tower, or a great Public School, it is for the Government, representing the community, to provide all these things if they are really needed and to provide the funds out of the public Treasury, raising loans or levying taxes for the purpose. All will benefit. All must contribute. These are objects for voluntary contribution or for unofficial enterprise.

"We must deal with Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee on the same principles on which we deal with the Silver Jubilee of a friend, but on the grander scale. If we desire to testify to Her Majesty and to the world our love and admiration for her, our loyalty and our respect, we may erect a monument, or present gifts; we may present our gifts to the Queen personally or bestow them on objects on which we know she would desire to have them conferred. We may put up a monument, but not in our own back-garden, as it were, and for our own exclusive use. Gifts to Her Majesty personally would undoubtedly be admirable, but they would have to be something curious or rare, and not customary. Gifts in the Queen's name for the benefit of objects approved of by the Queen are still more appropriate and would undoubtedly be most acceptable to Her Majesty, and the best proof we could give of our desire to please her and do her honour. If purely charitable, and from which we

MORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS.**A MANILA PROPOSAL.**

Steps are being taken by Mr. George R. Summers, acting City Superintendent of Schools, to provide every district of Manila with a primary school. If this plan is carried out, it is believed that all pupils seeking admission to the public schools next June will be able to matriculate. The city authorities have already given their approval to this plan. It is now necessary to secure privately owned buildings which may be rented by the city for school purposes.

It is learned that the appropriation for the city schools for the coming school year makes possible providing every district of the city with school facilities and to increase the teaching force of the city to take care of the anticipated increase in the number of pupils.

At the opening of last school year a few less than 1,000 pupils were turned away from the public schools of the city owing to lack of buildings and teachers. It was to avoid a similar occurrence that the Acting City Superintendent of Schools Mr. Summers worked to realize the plan of providing every district of the city with a school.

Superintendent Summers with the aid of his subordinates is now looking for suitable houses in the various districts of the city to be used as school buildings when the schools open next June.

ourselves derived no benefit whatever, so much the better, so much more pure the gift and untainted by any less worthy motive. Another great contribution to the Indian Famine Fund, if the need in the direction is great, to be given in the Queen's name as our Jubilee offering would be the best and most acceptable we still think, but if not that, then the permanent memorial of Her Majesty's reign must surely be sought for in the last category of things philanthropic and useful, of advantage to the Colony indirectly, directly in aid of those who without our help cannot well help themselves, and such a project must benefit as large a class and unite in its support as many suffrages and as much money as possible.

"Among the list submitted we see but two—the Hospital for Women and Training School for Nurses, and the College of Medicine for Chinese—that are at all worthy of consideration. They embrace large numbers of people and extend their operations over long periods of years. They will combine all races and classes, Chinese and Europeans, men and women, young and old in their support.

These remarks have a peculiar interest at the present moment, when opinion is somewhat divided as to the form of the Colony's proposed War Memorial.

"ANDRE LEBON" IN PORT.**MANY FRENCH PEOPLE
GOING HOME.**

It is not only the Britishers who are home-sick. The French are equally so, and those who were over-age and medically unfit for enlistment in the French Army are going home from the Orient in feverish haste. Their anxiety during the war was unspeakable. Many of the Frenchmen in China have had their homes in France destroyed and their household diminished. A good many are now going back to see what indescribable horrors the relentless hordes of Germans had perpetrated on French soil. The meeting at home will be one of poignant grief. Mothers and fathers may have succumbed to the heart-rending cruelties of the Hun, sisters and relations may not be easily recognised, for the war may have added many years to their age. The armistice has imported into the French life some gaiety, but millions of hearts will for years to come shed many silent tears over those whom they dearly loved and whose companionship was a deep solace. With a stoicism these French will have to go through life, determined that no Teuton shall ever cloud his vision or cross his doorstep. It is remarkable how this Great European War has produced in this respect an ideal subscribed to by all the civilised nations of the world—the determination that the German is to be the leper of the world. The edict has gone forth and one and all have supported it. The *Andre Lebon*, under the agency of the French Mail Steamship Company, arrived yesterday from Shanghai, and is going to Marseilles with 779 French passengers. Travelling with them is the Marquis Fusani Confalonieri, the Italian Ambassador to Japan, who is going to Italy via Marseilles. There are 300 French soldiers who have seen fighting in Siberia and many of these are disabled. A new contingent, we believe, will take their place. The rest of the passengers are a few French Army officers and numerous French merchants and traders of China, who have been collected from Japan, Tientsin, Peking and Shanghai.

The *Andre Lebon* leaves this evening at 8 o'clock and she will later take a large number of passengers from Indo-China. At Haiphong the French Ambassador and High Commissioner will embark with his family. The passengers from Hongkong are Mr. and Mrs. Knott, Mrs. Wei and Miss Flint.

The *Sa. Paul Leont*, another large vessel of the French Mail Company, arrives at Hongkong at 5 o'clock from Haiphong, and sails for Shanghai and the North to-morrow night. She is carrying a large quantity of cargo for the North and many passengers.

We learn that in future there will be a monthly sailing, and although passenger accommodation may be commandeered by the French Government, yet a number of private Frenchmen will be enabled to go home.

In spite of the Armistice, there is no perceptible improvement in the trade between this Colony and France. There is a lack of sufficient tonnage and one thing more—until Peace is signed the Frenchman does not think it prudent to commit himself to any commercial transaction on a vast scale, except for immediate needs. Foodstuffs go principally from Indo-China and America and within the next six months it is foreseen that the Franco-Hongkong trade will revive.

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FOR BOMBAY via STRAITS & COLOMBO			
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Steamer	From Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
MONTEAGLE	—	29 April.
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	1 May.	19 May.
EMPERESS OF JAPAN	14 May.	4 June.
EMPERESS OF ASIA	29 May.	16 June.
MONTEAGLE	10 June.	4 July.
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	25 June.	14 July.
EMPERESS OF JAPAN	9 July.	30 July.
EMPERESS OF ASIA	24 July.	11 Aug.
MONTEAGLE	15 Aug.	8 Sept.
EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	21 Aug.	8 Sept.
EMPERESS OF ASIA	—	—

"FARES HONGKONG TO EUROPE"

EMPERESS OF RUSSIA	Gold \$491.00
EMPERESS OF ASIA	Gold \$436.00
EMPERESS OF JAPAN	Gold \$436.00
MONTEAGLE	Gold \$436.00

Payable in Local currency at demand rate on New York.

For particulars regarding passage fares, etc., apply to the Agents, Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., 22, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong.

For freight rates and through bills of lading, apply to the Agents, Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., 22, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong.

For freight rates and through bills of lading, apply to the Agents, Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., 22, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.
U. S. MAIL LINE.Operating the new First Class Steamers
"ECUADOR," "VENEZUELA" and "COLOMBIA,"
14,000 tons Each.Hongkong to San Francisco,
via Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama and HONOLULU.

THE SUNSHINE BELT.

The most Comfortable Route to America and Europe.

Sailings from Hongkong at noon.	
S.S. "ECUADOR"	23rd April.
S.S. "COLOMBIA"	21st May.
S.S. "VENEZUELA"	—
For New York via the Panama Canal.	—
S.S. "ECLIPSE"	14th April.

These steamers have the most modern equipment including over-
head electric fans and electric lighting ALL LOWER BERTHS &
Large Comfortable State-rooms (all single and two berths only.)The Safety and Comfort of Passengers is our First Consideration. Special
care is given to the cuisine, and the attendance on passengers cannot be surpassed.
Tickets are interchangeable with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Canadian
Pacific Ocean Service, Ltd.For further information, rates, literature, schedules etc.,
Apply to—
ALEXANDRA BUILDING,
Chater Road.

Telephone No. 141.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

BANKERS AND FORWARDERS.

ESTABLISHED—1841.

HEAD OFFICE—65 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS—U. S. \$25,000,000.00.

LONDON OFFICES—84, QUEEN STREET, E. C.

6, Haymarket, S. W.

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Branches & Agencies—throughout the world.

General Banking and Foreign Exchange.

We maintain Foreign Trade and Travel Bureaus.

American Business a Specialty.

SHIPPING.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
(JAPAN MAIL S.S. CO.)

Sailings from Hongkong subject to alteration.

Destination. Steamer & Displacement. Sailing Dates.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKO. Yokohama M. [SAT. 26th
HAMA T. 12,340 Apr. at 11 a.m.NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKO. Kamakura M. [SAT. 19th
HAMA T. 12,410 Apr. at 11 a.m.SHANGHAI & KOBE. Iyo Maru [SAT. 19th
T. 12,330 Apr. at noon.LONDON via Singapore, Penang, Atsuta M. [SAT. 3rd
Colombo, Suez and Port Said T. 15,980 May, at noon.MELBOURNE via Manila, Zam- Nikko M. [WED.
boanga, Thursday Is., Town- T. 9,600 23rd Apr.NEW YORK via Shanghai, Kobe For date of sailing apply at
Yokohama, San Francisco and the Company's Office.Panama Canal. Tenshin Maru [SAT. 12th
T. 12,330 Apr. at 11 a.m.BOMBAY via Singapore, Malac- Toyo Maru [Middle of
ca and Colombo T. 15,980 April.CALCUTTA via Singapore, Pen- Shimbu Maru [TUES. 15th
ang and Rangoon T. 15,980 Apr. at 11 a.m.Rangoon M. [End of
T. 15,980 April.

* Wireless Telegraphy.

HONGKONG-VICTORIA, S.C.-SEATTLE VIA MANILA, SHANGHAI.

NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND YOKOHAMA.

* Suwa Maru MON. 5th May, at 11 a.m.

* NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

S. YASUDA, Manager.

Telephone Nos. 292 & 293.

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Telephone Nos. 292 & 293.

SHIPPING NEWS.

TYNE IMPROVEMENT
COMMISSIONERS.

A bill "for increasing the dues, rates, tolls and charges leviable by the Tyne Improvement Commissioners and for extending the time for completion of authorised works" has been deposited for introduction into Parliament next session. The preamble states that: owing to the large increase in the expenses of the Commissioners in carrying out their statutory obligations the dues, rates, tolls and charges which they are, by the Tyne Improvement Acts, authorised to collect and levy are insufficient to meet the expenses and enable them to maintain their undertaking and fulfil their obligations. It is therefore expedient that the amount of the dues, rates, tolls and charges should be increased. In accordance with this recital, clause 2 of the bill proposes to enact that: "As from the passing of this Act all river, dock, pier, moorings, bridge, harbour lights, buoys and beacons dues, rates and charges on vessels, and all river and dock dues, rates, tolls and charges on goods, coal, coke and passengers, and any other dues, rates, tolls and charges which the Commissioners are, under the Tyne Improvement Acts, 1850 to 1903, or any other Act relating to the Commissioners, authorised to demand, collect and levy, and for which any maximum amount is prescribed by such Acts, are hereby increased by an amount equal to 100 per centum of the maximum amount so prescribed, and the said Acts shall be read and have effect as if such increased dues, rates, tolls and charges had been authorised thereby in lieu of the maximum dues, rates, tolls and charges prescribed by such Acts." The bill also proposes to grant a further ten years in which to complete all authorised works.

ANTWERP SHIPPING AND
RECONSTRUCTION.

With the object of placing Antwerp in the prominent position it the world of shipping in pre-war days, a great deal of reorganisation and reconstruction will be necessary, as the Germans during their occupation of the city caused wanton and extensive damage, especially in everything connected with the shipping trade, as their desire was that Belgium should never again be able to compete with the Germans for the supremacy of the Continental trade. Fortunately, thanks to the military victory of the Allies and the silent power of the British Navy, these sinister and menacing aims were thwarted, and Antwerp is destined to become one of the principal ports of the Continent of Europe. Antwerp is now being rebuilt by Belgian industry and capital, backed up financially and industrially by the principal Allies, chiefly Great Britain, whose chief concern is in Antwerp's reconstruction and rehabilitation in the shipping industry, its excellent geographical position as the western gateway to the Continent of Europe attracting considerable attention from shipowners, shipbrokers, shippers, and merchants. With the development of Antwerp's shipping trade the natural corollary of such progress is the establishment of shipbrokers, forwarding agents, and warehousemen's offices, and Liverpool firms—recognising the important position that Antwerp will occupy—are showing their business acumen and foresight by opening offices in the port in order that they may be able to participate in the great wave of prosperity which will undoubtedly sweep over Belgium during the period of reconstruction and afterwards when shipping affairs settle down into their normal conditions. Messrs. A. Coker and Co., Ltd., the well-known firm of shipbrokers, of Liverpool, officially announced that they will shortly open an office at Antwerp under the style of "Agence Coker Lefranc, Soc. Anon." for the purpose of carrying on the business of shipbrokers, forwarding agents, warehousemen, samplers, &c. The directors of the company are Mr. A. Coker, jun., who is a director of Messrs. A. Coker and Co., Ltd., Liverpool and Manchester, and Messrs. Coker, Poole and Startup, Ltd., London, and Mr. Gustaf Lefranc, who was for many years the manager of Messrs. S. A. Edwards and Son, of Antwerp, which firm will not reopen business.

SHIPPING.

C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.
SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers	To Sails
SHANGHAI	Kailong	9th Apr. at 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Fengtien	9th Apr. at 3 p.m.
STOW W'VEI, C'FOO & T'HSIN	Huichow	10th Apr. at noon
SHANGHAI	Suiyang	10th Apr. at 2 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Kashang	10th Apr. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	Yingchow	13th Apr. at d'light
SWATOW & BANGKOK	Chinhua	14th Apr. at 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Tean	15th Apr. at noon
SHANGHAI	Sunning	17th Apr. at noon

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO. Excellent Saloon accommodation amidsthops. Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular scheduled service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai (thrice weekly) and Tain (twice weekly), taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

BANGKOK LINE.—Weekly service to and from Bangkok via Swatow.

For Freight or Passage apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Telephone No. 35.

Hongkong April 8, 1919

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tilpanas	Java	in port	Java	20th Apr.
Tijilwong	Java	24th Apr.	Java	29th Apr.

"The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia."

For particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to the

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN,
York Building.

Telephone No. 1574.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS SERVICE.

Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW AND RETURN.
(Occupying 9 to 10 days.)

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Mallan	A. H. Stewart	THUR. 10th Apr. at 1 p.m.
Haihong	J. W. Evans	FRI. 18th Apr. at 1 p.m.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to

Douglas Lapraik & Co.,
General Managers.INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—(Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
KOBE	Suisang	Fri. 11th Apr. at d'light
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Thur. 10th Apr. at noon
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri. 11th Apr. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Hopsang	Sun. 13th Apr. at d'light
TIENTSIN	Chipsang	Wed. 16th Apr. at d'light
SHANGHAI	Kwongsang	Thur. 17th Apr. at d'light
SHANGHAI	Choysang	Wed. 18th Apr. at d'light
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri. 18th Apr. at 3 p.m.
KOBE	Yatsang	Sun. 20th Apr. at d'light
STRAITS & Calcutta	Kwaisang	Tues. 22nd Apr. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This Line is now being reorganised and will shortly afford frequent and regular sailings to Calcutta via Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed via Straits and Hongkong to Japan, occasionally calling at Shanghai.

All steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and Fans and carry a fully qualified surgeon.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai. Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Haiphong when convenient.

BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer leaving on a date to be notified.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kaitum, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Lahad Dairi.

TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Waltham and Chien.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

For Freight or passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Telephone No. 215.

General Managers.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

"FOR NEW YORK"

S. S. "SLAVIC PRINCE"

Will be despatched for New York about
End of April.

For freight and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.
Agents.

SHIPPING.

O. S. K.
OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

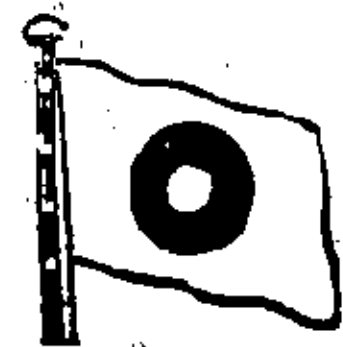
SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.
LONDON—Monthly direct service via Singapore and Port Said.
"VANCOUVER MARU" Saturday, 26th April.
GENOA & BOMBAY—Monthly service. Taking cargo on through Bills of Lading with transshipment at Bombay to Co.'s steamer.
"MITSUKI MARU" Saturday, 12th April.
MARSEILLES—Monthly direct service via Singapore & Port Said.
BUENOS AIRES, RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, MAURITIUS, DURBAN and CAPE TOWN via SINGAPORE.
"HIMALAYA MARU" Sunday, 13th April.
BOMBAY AND COLOMBO, Regular fortnightly service via SINGAPORE.
"MITSUKI MARU" Saturday, 12th April.
SYDNEY, MELBOURNE—Monthly service calling at AUSTRALIA, N.Z. and ADELAIDE.
"KOHRO MARU" Wednesday, 9th April.
VICTORIA, VANCOUVER & TACOMA via MANILA, KEELUNG, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI & YOKOHAMA.
"MANILA MARU" 12th April.
"ARABIA MARU" Thursday, 10th April.
HAIPHONG—Three times a month service.
"TAIYOKU MARU" Friday, 11th April.
KEELUNG, TAKAO via SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers and will arrive at and depart from the Soon Yip Wharf, near the Harbour Office.
TAKAO via SWATOW AND AMOY.
"SOSHU MARU" Thursday, 10th April.
KEELUNG via SWATOW AND AMOY.
"AMAKUSA MARU" Sunday, 13th April, at 10 a.m.
JAPAN PORTS—MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
"KENKON MARU" 12th April.
For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—
K. YAMASAKI, Manager.
No. 1, Queen's Building.
Tel. No. 741 and 743.

Y. K. K.
YAMASHITA KISEN KAISHA.
(THE YAMASHITA STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

NANYO MARU No. 1
NANYO MARU No. 2
NANYO MARU No. 3
SODEGAURA MARU.
KYODO MARU No. 13
TAMON MARU No. 1
ASOSAN MARU.
CHEIAN MARU.

REGULAR SERVICE FOR
FREIGHT BETWEEN
HONGKONG,
BANGKOK
and/or
SINGAPORE.

For Particulars Please Apply to:—
M. KOBAYASHI, Agent.
Tel. No. 140 & 155. Top Floor, King's Building.



KUHARA SHOJI KAISHA, LTD.

KUHARA TRADING CO., LTD.
(Shipping Department).
HEAD OFFICE (KOBE).

Branches and Representatives:—
TOKIO, OSAKA, LONDON, NEW YORK, PARIS, BERN, PORT SAID, CALLED, HAVANA, BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, TAWAO, BANGKOK, SAIGON, VLADIVOSTOK, SHANGHAI and TAIPEI.
Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Pacific Coasts, Japan, China, India, Java, North and South America, also to Mediterranean.

SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE.

For further particulars apply to—

CHU KYOKU TRADING CO.,
M. HASHIMOTO,
General Agents.

Telephone No. 2108.

THE ADMIRAL LINE.

PACIFIC STEAMSHIP CO.

TRANS-PACIFIC FREIGHT SERVICE.

REGULAR SAILINGS

BETWEEN

CHINA, MANILA, SINGAPORE, JAPAN
and SEATTLE.

S.S. "SENATOR"

SAILS FOR

SEATTLE—APRIL 20th.

FOR FREIGHT AND PARTICULARS APPLY TO
THE ADMIRAL LINE

JOHN J. GORMAN, GENERAL AGENT.

Telephones 2888 & 2998. 5th Floor, Hotel Mansions.

SHIPPING.

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART MAATSCHAPPY

(Royal Packet Navigation Co. of Batavia)

THE STEAMSHIP:

"VAN WAERWYCK"

will be despatched on the 12th April to:—
Singapore, Penang and Belawan Deli.

This vessel offers excellent cabin-accommodation for saloon passengers.

Wireless Telegraphy

For freight and passage apply to:

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LYN,

Telephone No. 1574.

Agents.

VESSELS LOADING AND TO LOAD.

Destination	Vessel's Name	For Freight Apply To	To be Despatched.
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JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Bombay via Ports	Tenshin M.	N. Y. K.	9. Apr.
Shanghai via Swatow	Wingsang	J. M. Co.	9. Apr.
Shanghai	Juiwang	B. & S.	10. Apr.
Takao via Swatow and Amoy	Sosho M.	O. S. K.	10. Apr.
Sandakan	Mausang	J. M. Co.	10. Apr.
Weihaiwei, Chefoo & Tientsin	Huichow	J. M. Co.	10. Apr.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Haitan	D. L. Co.	10. Apr.
Kobe	Suisang	J. M. Co.	11. Apr.
Manila	Yuanfang	J. M. Co.	11. Apr.
Haiphong	Taitoku M.	O. S. K.	11. Apr.
Genoa	Mitsuki M.	O. S. K.	11. Apr.
Shanghai and Tientsin	Yingchow	B. & S.	12. Apr.
Shanghai	Hopsang	J. M. Co.	13. Apr.
Keelung via Swatow and Amoy	Amakusa M.	O. S. K.	13. Apr.
Swatow and Bangkok	Changchow	B. & S.	14. Apr.
Shanghai	Tean	B. & S.	15. Apr.
Tientsin	Chipsing	J. M. Co.	16. Apr.
Shanghai	Sunning	B. & S.	17. Apr.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Kwongsang	J. M. Co.	17. Apr.
Manila	Haihong	D. L. Co.	18. Apr.
Shanghai	Loongsang	J. M. Co.	18. Apr.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama	Choyang	J. M. Co.	18. Apr.
Java	Kamakura	N. Y. K.	19. Apr.
Kobe	J.C.J.L.	J.C.J.L.	20. Apr.
Straits and Calcutta	Yatsing	J. M. Co.	20. Apr.
Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama	Kwaisang	J. M. Co.	22. Apr.
Japan	Yama M.	N. Y. K.	26. Apr.
Bombay via Ports	Tjiliwong	J.C.J.L.	29. Apr.
Calcutta via Ports	Toyo M.	N. Y. K.	M. of Apr.
	Rangoon M.	N. Y. K.	E. on Apr.

CONSIGNEES.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

s.s. "PERSIA MARU,"

From SAN FRANCISCO via
HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS
and MANILA.

The above named steamer having arrived, consignees of cargo are hereby notified to send in their Bill of Lading for counter-signature and to take immediate delivery from alongside.

Cargo remaining undelivered on 7th April, 1919, at 5 P.M., will be landed at consignees risk, and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godown.

Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on 10th April, 1919, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No Claim will be recognised after the goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

All chafed and damaged goods will be landed into Company's Godowns, where they will be examined on 10th April 1919, at 10 A.M.

No Claim will be recognised after the 24th April 1919.

T. DAIGO,
Manager.

Hongkong, 3th April, 1919.

MOVEMENTS OF
STEAMERS.

The s.s. CELTIC PRINCE is due to arrive here from New York towards the end of April.

The American & Manchuria Line s.s. TITABOEM left New York for Hongkong, Manila and Singapore on the 4th March, and may be expected to arrive at this port on the 20th May.

The T. K. K. is in receipt of telegraphic advice that the s.s. TEEYO MARU left San Francisco March 24th, and is due to arrive at this Port on April 22nd.

CONSIGNEES.

INDO-CHINA STEAM
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From CALCUTTA, PENANG
AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"SUISANG,"

having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 11th inst. at noon will be subject to ent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined. Claims against the steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by

JARDINE, MATHESON
& CO., LTD.

General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1919.

The C. P. O. S. s.s. METAVEN from Vancouver, arrived at Yokohama on the 3rd April, and is due at Hongkong about the 15th April.

The R. M. S. EMPRESS OF ASIA left Yokohama for Vancouver on the 5th April, and is due at Vancouver on or about the 15th April.

The R. M. S. KEY WEST leaves Shanghai for Hongkong on the 9th April, and is due at Hongkong on or about the 13th April.

The s.s. ECLIPSE, Voy 1-Outward, which sailed from Manila on Sunday morning the 6th inst., is expected to arrive at this Port on Wednesday morning the 9th inst.

NOTICES.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.

MOTOR DEPARTMENT

CAR REPAIRS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS INCLUDING GENERAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL REPAIRS UNDER EUROPEAN SUPERVISION.

Repainting a Specialty.

Enquiries and Inspection Invited.

MOTOR GARAGE

7 Russell St.

TEL. NO. 659 & 781.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "MANIFESTO" HONGKONG.

Codes Used At: A B 7. Fifth Edition: Engineering, First and Second Edition: Western Union and Watkins.

Dock Owners, Ship Builders, Marine and Land Engineers, Boiler Makers,

Iron and Brass Founders, Forge Masters, Electricians.

ACETYLENE CUTTING AND WELDING FOR SHIP AND BOILER REPAIR

Modern up-to-date plant operated by our own specially trained workmen under expert European supervision.

All classes of light Steel work manufactured by the above process.

Tanks, Drums, Ventilators, Pipes, &c., &c.

THE DIMENSIONS OF DOCKS AND SLIPS ARE AS FOLLOWS.—					
NAME OF DOCK OR SLIP	LENGTH OF DOCK OR SLIP	WIDTH OF DOCK OR SLIP	DEPTH OF DOCK OR SLIP	DEPTH OF DOCK OR SLIP	DEPTH OF DOCK OR SLIP
KOWLOON					
No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
WATERLOO					
Compass Slip, Dock	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
ALBERTS					
Harbour Dock	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'
Lowest Dock	100'	14'	10'	10'	10'

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UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company, Ltd.

The following Unclaimed Telegrams are lying here:—

Zeroone, from Osaka.

Wongkeehong, Waugcheong-shing, from Moji.

Tantak, from Shanghai.

Wanshua, from Shanghai.

Chongyounkai Kwanyee, from Shanghai.

Yingzung, Jervois Street, from Shanghai.

Chanow, from Shanghai.

Shinpei Shuku, c/o Taiwan Bank, from Tokio.

Yuslee, from Shanghai.

S. Hsabin, Inaba Maru, from Tokio.

Hingkei, from Kobe.

Bowers, St. Georges Hotel, from Yokohama.

Changchesebi, Lohhopching, from Shanghai.

Chanho, Taitong Hotel, from Amoy (two).

Fooktonkchan, Limmoantong, from Amoy.

Sayenggiaptong, fourth storey pingin central market, from Amoy.

T. KRING,

Act. Superintendent.

Hongkong, April 4, 1919.

Eastern Extension Australasia & China Telegraph Co.

List of Unclaimed Telegrams lying in the E. E. Telegraph Office at Hongkong:—

Barretto, from Saigon.

Cubitt, from Kuala Lumpur.

Dagoba Colom, from Calcutta.

Delamare, Hongkong Hotel, from Paris.

Harrap, Hongkong Club, from Shanghai.

Moder, from Rangoon.

Munro, Steamer War Charger, from Porres.

O. S. Orrick, from Oakland, California.

Peter Moyer, Hongkong Hotel, from Philadelphia.

Taylor, Hongkong Hotel, from Manila.

J. E. GIBSON,

Superintendent.

Hongkong, April 4, 1919.

TIDE TABLE.

From 7th Apr. to 13th Apr.

Day	Time of High Water	Time of Low Water	Time of High Water	Time of Low Water	Time of High Water	Time of Low Water
Mon.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Tue.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Wed.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Thur.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Fri.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Sat.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15
Sun.	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15	7.15	1.15

m morning. a afternoon.

TO-DAY'S CHINESE
TELEGRAMS.

(Wai Tsz Yat Po Service.)

Peking, April 8.

A large quantity of opium, reported to have been smuggled by soldiers from Mukden, has been seized by the Customs.

Students returned from America, Britain, Italy and France have all joined and telegraphed to President Wilson requesting the return of Kiaochow to China.

The re-opening of the Shanghai Conference is reported to be taking place on Wednesday.

Shanghai, April 8.

The Shen-shi gentry have petitioned the Government requesting it to avail itself of the present armistice to clear out bandits and alleviate the people's suffering. Peking has already wired Chang Sui-ki to carry out the suggestion in conjunction with the different armies.

Kuluangtsu, in Amoy, has been selected as the site for the conference to decide on the demarcation of Fukien territory, pending the result of the Shanghai Conference.

Chu Shu-tsung attended a Cabinet meeting on the 5th inst. and explained his territorial defence scheme, which consisted of four proposals—to establish banks to issue domestic bonds, to establish reclamation and cattle grazing companies, and to send troops to settle on the frontier.

Chan Luk, Foreign Vice-Minister, has conferred with Mr. Obata at the Japanese Legation as to how to simultaneously publish the War Participation Law.

Luk Ching-cheung, head delegate at Paris, reports that excepting Germany and Austria all countries reject Mongolian independence. He believes, therefore, that the matter will not be heard of at the Conference.

The Peace Conference had an informal meeting at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, the Shensi question being first discussed. As there is no fighting in the whole Province, no debate was aroused, but it was decided to carry out the Yangtze Tachung's recent proposal to send a high official to Shensi to investigate which side should be blamed for causing the former trouble and to prevent similar trouble in future, while the questions of the Defence Army, the War Participation Loan, the military pact, and the 8th year bonds are to be discussed at one time and settled in a fortnight.

CHINESE SHIPBUILDING.

NEW STEAMER LAUNCHED.

The ss. Kam Ying Fat, built by the Kwong Cheung Hing Shipbuilding yard, of Kowloon, for the Globe Navigation Company of Hongkong, underwent her first speed trials this morning, which proved satisfactory in every way. The vessel was decorated with flags, and a large number of friends of those concerned were aboard during the trial. Special significance attaches to the incident since this is the first vessel of the kind to be built entirely by Chinese in a Chinese yard for a Chinese firm and is indicative of the growing enterprise of Chinese shipbuilders.

The Kam Ying Fat is 195 feet long and 23½ foot beam. She is fitted with two boilers, each 6 feet by 9 feet, and contains two compound engines driving twin screws making a speed of about ten and a half knots. There are two decks fore and aft with bridge on the top deck. The vessel has a cargo-carrying capacity of 800 tons and is of wooden hull with iron frame. For passengers, there are six first class cabins with bath rooms and also a spacious dining saloon. The Kam Ying Fat took ten months to build and has been passed by Messrs. Jones, Macdonald and Co., Government Surveyors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")
THE JESUIT COLLEGE.

Sir,—I have read with interest all the correspondence published in the Press regarding the proposed Jesuit College, at Hongkong, under the distinguished patronage of Senhor Sousa, Consul for Portugal, the country from which the Jesuits were banished, and I beg to state that Mr. De Sousa, as Consul for Portugal, should not preside over the committee of such a College.

I have reason to believe that the Portuguese children of Hongkong are receiving a very weak education. Is it impossible to improve it by other means than those suggested? Why imagine that a Jesuit College will be a remedy? Is it a fact that the Jesuits are the best teachers, on the face of the earth? I don't think that they are good educators. No one, with sense in him, knowing certain abominable facts and the lamentable politics of the Jesuits, will advocate their coming to these shores.

Why are some prominent members of the Portuguese community in Hongkong taking so much interest in advocating their cause? Will not a free and up-to-date technical school, directed by civil professors, as at the Hongkong University, suit the Portuguese community?

Yours etc.,

F. X.

Macao, April 8, 1919.

[This correspondence is now closed.—Ed. H.K.T.]

WOMAN AVIATOR.

FLIGHTS IN MANILA.

Reporting exhibition flights by Miss Ruth Law, an American aviatrix, the Manila Bulletin of the 5th inst. says:—

There was only one Law in Manila yesterday and that was Ruth.

Drawing to the vicinity of the Luneta the largest crowd that has ever been commanded by a single attraction in the Philippines, the American girl who has taken to herself the wings and all of the free abandon of a bird, disposed, yesterday afternoon, of the first half of her contract with the Philippine Aero Club and carried the first aerial mail in the Far East.

Police estimates are that at least ten thousand people made their way to the Luneta between 2 and 5 p.m. yesterday, and Miss Law said it was one of the largest gatherings to which she has performed. In addition to the dense mass of people covering the Luneta and Ermita district, the whole city paused in its affairs for an hour and a half before sunset to thrill and gasp at the remarkable feat of aviation by the foremost woman aviator of the world.

The dropping of the thirty-pound mail sack containing letters and cards will be delivered to their addresses in Manila this morning, bearing the first mail stamp, was a distinct departure from anything that Miss Law has included in her programmes and, as far as a test of the precise dropping of a mail sack from an aeroplane was concerned, the Aero Club's initial attraction was a decided success. The famous aviatrix swooped to within a few feet of the roof of the Manila Hotel and dropped the sack in the exact centre of the east tower with a precision which she declared may be duplicated by any practiced aviator.

For nearly an hour, first in the dazzling radiance of the late afternoon sun and then in the soft colourings of the gloaming, men, women and children of Manila stood spell-bound gazing aloft at this swooping, daring, carvorting heroine of the air.

Manila's official reception for Miss Law was tendered at the Manila Hotel last night, with the Aero Club the host for all of the officialdom of the city. Most of the heads of the Insular Government are members of the Club and were there with their families to extend congratulations to the heroine of the occasion. And she proved herself as graceful on a ball-room floor as she is in the air. The place was thronged with the leading families of the Philippines.

LEAGUE OF ALL NATIONS.

MR. J. H. THOMAS ON BASIS
OF PEACE.

The International Labour Conference at Bern on February 5 was devoted to a discussion of the League of Nations resolution submitted by the Conference Commission.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., opened with a forceful speech which the delegates warmly applauded. He made an earnest appeal to the delegates not to fritter away their time in endless wrangling over responsibility for the past, but to remember that responsibility for the future was far more important. He declared that the peoples would not be satisfied with a paper settlement. The League of Nations must be, not a part of the settlement, but its basis. It must include all nations, and not a few selected ones. The settlement must be framed not in the spirit of victor and vanquished, the spirit of hatred and revenge, but the spirit of the guardianship of the interests of the world and of humanity.

From the horror, suffering, and misery of the war must emerge a determined attempt to make war impossible. Unless the League was made the foundation of peace, territorial and strategic disputes would arise, and of these the imperialists and capitalists would take advantage.

For the League to be effective it was first necessary that there should be international abolition of Conscription. They were determined not to substitute the destroyed German militarism by a British militarism. It was the duty of the German Socialists to say that the spirit of militarism had brought about Germany's downfall, and that it should prevail no longer; that they could no longer allow vested interests to control the means of destruction of human life, and look for profits from the blood of the people.

It was the duty of the League to deal not only with Conscription and the private production of armaments, but also with secret treaties. They must insist that the League should deal with the human and social side of life, and that it should establish an international code of labour conditions. They must say to the Governments assembled in Paris: Do justice, rise above jealousies and personal revenge, rebuild the ruins of the nation into a new world.

Herr Hermann Muller, secretary of the German Majority Socialist Party, immediately followed. German Social Democracy, he said, had always opposed militarism and navalism. During the recent elections the Majority took up a strong position regarding the question of armaments, and favoured a citizen army, not to be used for aggressive purposes. Speeches were also delivered by M.M. Troelstra, Milhaud, and Cachin, and then a powerful contribution to the debate was made by Mr. J. Ramsay MacDonald, who said that it was profoundly significant and appropriate that the first serious discussion of the conference was on the League of Nations. One of the most essential duties of such a League was to create a Commission to control the supply of raw material and to preserve the economic constitution of the world-organisations created by the war for the control of shipping, transport, and materials in the interests of the people.

The success of the League depended on the character of the peace. To give a peace similar to that of 1871, and to create Government committees and call that a League of Nations, would be no League at all from the Socialist point of view.

The League, he contended, must not be an association to share out the spoils of war, and must not be an instrument of victory. It must be a union of all nations whose social and political development entitled them to membership.

He welcomed the declaration of the German Majority Socialists regarding disarmament, but was disappointed with the proposal for a Citizen Army, for the formation of such an Army on the basis of population would strike at the very root of the principle of a League of Nations. He appealed to the Germans to remove the Citizen Army proposal from their programme and to declare that the only safe basis of the League was disarmament.

Mr. MacDonald proposed that in the resolution which is to be submitted to the Conference tomorrow it should be declared that representation on the Central Body of the League of Nations

TO-DAY'S SHARE
QUOTATIONS.S.—SELLERS; B.—BUYERS;
B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

H. K. & S. Banks b. & ss. \$700

MARINE INSURANCES.

Car. One b. \$450
North Chinas b. \$140
Unions b. \$1055
Yangtzes b. \$295
Far East ex. n. \$26

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires s. \$170
H. K. Fires b. \$330 ss. \$375

SHIPPING.

Douglases b. \$91
Steamboats s. 35
Indos (Prof.) b. \$32
Indos (Del.) n. 163
Shells b. 163-
Ferries s. \$55

REFINERIES.

Sugars b. \$123 ss. 127
Malabons b. \$35

MINING.

Kailans n. 50-
Langkats Comb. b. \$21 s. 22
Rauas b. 21
Ternohs b. 40-
Urals s. 40-

DOCKS, WHARVES,
GODOWNS, & C.

H. K. Wharves b. \$125 ss. 126
K. Docks s. \$154 ss. 154
Shai Docks b. \$127
N. Engineerings b. \$23

LANDS, HOTELS
AND BUILDINGS.

Centrais s. \$108
H. K. Hotels b. \$95
Land Invest. b. \$17
Hobbes Est. b. \$72
K'loon Lands b. \$35
L. Reclamations n. \$175
West Points b. \$69

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos b. \$230
Kung Yiks b. & ss. \$27
Lau Kung Mows s. \$170
Orientals s. \$70
Shai Cottons s. \$170
Yangtzepons b. & ss. \$10.50

MISCELLANEOUS.

Green Islands b. \$75
Borneos b. \$13.20
C. Light & P. b. cum rights 55
Providents b. \$75
Dairy Farms b. & ss. \$28
H. K. Electric b. \$74
Macao Electric b. \$33
Ropes n. \$30
Trams, Low Level n. \$7.90
Trams, Peak, old b. \$71
Trams, Peak, new b. cts. 75
Laundries b. \$6.50
Steel E. Indies n. \$12
U. Waterboats ss. \$134
Waiso s. b. 64
Wm. Powells b. \$11
Wiseman's b. \$27

Hongkong, April 9, 1919.

DRIFTING MINES.

Alarm was caused at Ramsgate recently, when a second German mine came ashore and embedded itself in the sands a few yards from the Marina bathing station. This time it was possible to render it safe by removing the detonators. Heavy explosions occurred at frequent intervals yesterday in the Channel, where large numbers of drifting mines have been destroyed.

should be, not by delegates from the executive branches of the Governments, but by delegates from Parliaments representing all parties.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

TELEPHONE

THE BREEZY GARAGE

FOR COMPLETE SATISFACTION
SUMMER IS HERE

and you want the most modern cars procurable at a price that is reasonable

CARS FOR HIRE:

Chandler, 7 Passenger : ... \$4.00 per hour
Endon Super Six : ... " 7.00 "
Oaklands : ... " 6.00 "

WEEKLY & MONTHLY TRIPS CAN BE ARRANGED

TEL. 2499

A LARGE STOCK OF GOODRICH & GOODYEAR
TYRES & TUBES \$175 34 x 4
& 22 x 4 HAVE ARRIVED.

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TO BE LET.

TO BE LET—"Derrington"
No. 8 Peak Road, furnished.
from 1st June. 8 rooms and 2
tennis Courts. Apply Linstead
& Davis.

THE SERVANT GIRL.

A GROWING PROBLEM.

London, January 23.—Time was when Americans, harassed by the servant problem, came to England to live. Here they could keep house in peace and sing the virtues of English domesticity, making comparisons based on experience in the United States with servants of every race and colour. They declared that from housekeeper and cook-general to nurse and between-maid the English serving women had no peers—they worked harder, better, longer hours, and with more willingness and for less pay than servants in any other part of the world.

Now many of these Americans are returning home. They have not modified their notions about English servants, but they simply cannot hire them any more. England, as a result of the war, is having her own servant problem.

The trouble began when the servant girls flocked into war work. Householders were greatly inconvenienced and large numbers closed up their dwellings and moved into hotels. Others did their own work, expecting the servants would return when the war ended. But the fighting has been over a long time now, scores of munition factories have closed, and still the girls have not returned to their old employment. Whether they ever will return is a favourite subject of gloomy speculation at many a tea table.

Of the hundreds of thousands of servant girls that responded to the call for patriotic service very few, according to employment agencies, are going back to domestic work. For thirteen weeks they have the £54.75 a week provided by the Government until they find other employment, but, unless the girls have homes to go to, that is scarcely enough to shelter and feed them.

Many with aptitude and skill will continue at factory work, taking the places of men killed or crippled in the war. Thousands will emigrate, it is believed, to America and to the dominions to seek industrial employment not available to them here. Other thousands will marry soldiers when the army is demobilised.

The majority, however, in the opinion of employment agency officials, will sooner or later have to return to domestic service.

But, according to a woman spokesman for the girls, it was the taste of factory-life freedom, even more than novelty of high wages, that is the chief cause of their present discontent. She cited as typical the conditions under which chambermaids in a big London hotel work.

"They receive," she said, "13 shillings a week for a working day of from 13 to 15 hours. Once a week they are allowed off from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until 10.30 at night, alternate Sundays from 2 p.m. until 10.30, and they are given a full day off once a month."

LAWN TENNIS.

Last evening's tournament

matches resulted as follows:—

Handicap Doubles.—Lieut.

Col. Crisp and Capt. Murray

(scr.) defeated A. H. Crook and

A. A. Claxton (recs. 2/8) 6-0;

6-3.

Handicap Singles "A"—A.

Morse (recs 3/6) defeated N. E.

Kent (owes 15) 6-0; 6-4.

Handicap Singles "B" (Final).

—C. B. Brown (recs. 15/3)

defeated E. A. Macdonald (recs.

2/6) 6-2; 7-5, 6-2.

NOTICES.

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THE MOST
MODERN
CARS IN
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PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

JAPANESE RED LANTERNS.

DIAMETER

8 inches 11½ inches

Per Case of 500 \$35.00 \$50.00

Per 100 7.50 11.00

Per dozen 1.00 1.25

CANDLES, to burn about five hours.

can be supplied at \$2.40 per 100.

PRICES NETT—CASH ON DELIVERY.

PLACE YOUR ORDERS EARLY.

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UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS,
Most up-to-date and Cheapest House
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Prompt attention given to Orders.

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EMBROIDERIES, FILET LACES, COLLARS,
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THE HONGKONG SCHOOL
OF MOTORING.APPLICATIONS FROM STUDENTS ARE
NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

The SCHOOL has accommodation for 200 PUPILS, the
syllabus including courses for MECHANICS
and DRIVING.

SPECIAL FACILITIES are offered to persons desirous
of becoming CHAUFFEURS and not at the
moment having means at their disposal for
their course.

Works and school-Shaukiwan Office-4 Queen's Road Central

CENTENARIAN IN WORKHOUSE.

The Norfolk centenarian, Mrs. Sarah Balls, of Harleston, who received a congratulatory message from the King on her 103rd birthday last July, has just been admitted to the infirmary at Depwade Workhouse. Her daughter, aged 80, accompanied her as an inmate. Despite her great age, Mrs. Balls is able to sew, read, and write without the use of glasses.

PORTIA BILL IN THE LORDS.

Lord Buckmaster intends to introduce at an early date a Bill to enable women to qualify both as barristers and solicitors. In the House of Commons upwards of 20 members have already indicated their intention of balloting for a Women Solicitors Bill, which has twice passed through the House of Lords. Should there be no success in the ballot it is stated that the Government will not be indisposed to give their support to such legislation.

GUARANTEES AGAINST
INVASION.ALLAYING FRENCH
ANXIETIES.

Major-General Sir F. Maurice, writes from Paris under date of February 9 as follows:—

The return of Mr. Lloyd George to England and the approaching departure of President Wilson for America mean that for some weeks to come the work of the Peace Conference will be done almost entirely in committee, and that the really vital questions will be decided by the President and the League of Nations. It is probable that this scheme will not pretend to be complete, and that, in particular, the power of enforcing its decisions, if they are disputed, will not be defined.

There is wisdom in leaving an interval for reflection and for the development of informal public opinion before the pilot attempt to circumnavigate the rock upon which all the critics of the League have predicted that it will split.

Much hangs upon the opinion of America in this matter, and President Wilson will have an invaluable opportunity both of educating his fellow-countrymen and of sounding their views. A considerable number of the representatives of the American Press who are now in Paris are returning about the same time as the President, and many of them whom I have met have told me how much they have been impressed by being brought into touch with the problems of the Old World, and of their realization for the first time of the extent to which the establishment of an effective League of Nations depends upon the practical co-operation of America.

VITAL FOR SECURITY.

If America consents to take a hand in providing the power needed to make the League a real factor in preventing such another cataclysm as that through which we have just passed, I can see no obstacles in the way of such a peace as we desire. If she does not, the Congress of Paris will do little more than effect an improvement of the Hague Convention, and remove some of the more obvious causes of friction. It will not have got at the root of the matter.

It is essential that this question of the force behind the League, of its power to offer real guarantees of security to its adherents, should be settled before the terms to be imposed upon Germany are discussed. Failing this, there is no practical alternative to a peace with Germany on the lines of the treaties of the past, which have endeavoured to obtain security for the victors by giving them the most favourable military frontier which can be devised, and by weakening the vanquished to the greatest possible extent.

This is the procedure for which the greater part of the French Press is pressing, because it is not satisfied as to the security which the League will afford. It is daily asking when the terms to be imposed upon Germany are to be considered; it is daily repeating that Germany is still strong and is growing stronger, and it insists that nothing short of the cession of the left bank of the Rhine to France and French suzerainty over Luxembourg will give satisfactory guarantees for the future.

It is undoubtedly true that the German plenipotentiaries are beginning to assert themselves, as is evidenced by General von Winterfeldt's resignation and by frequent delays in executing the terms of armistice. This is a matter which Marshal Foch will

see to on Feb. 17, and he will also almost certainly take what measures appear to him to be necessary to prevent a German attack upon Poland and to ensure communication between the Allies and that country.

THE ENEMY'S POSITION.

The military position of Germany to-day is that she has mobilised her armies with the exception of two annual classes, which at present yield a standing army of rather over 600,000 men. She could, if the national spirit were sufficiently aroused, bring her military strength up to about 3,000,000 by recalling men who have been discharged, but it is obvious that this step is only possible if it has behind it the full force of public opinion. It is probable that she has sufficient equipment for these 3,000,000, but she would be very short of artillery, of ammunition, and of rolling-stock. We are all agreed that, things being as they are, the demobilisation of the Allies cannot safely be reduced below a certain standard, which, for us, has been fixed at 900,000 men, of whom about half a million will form our Army of Occupation in Germany. The situation as regards Germany requires careful watching and cool handling, but there is no occasion for alarmist statements.

These are in essence matters of detail not of principle and it is as regards principles that I have been watching for indications of some change of tone in the French Press. They have appeared occasionally, but are almost immediately swamped by a recrudescence of Chauvinism. I have at the same time been endeavouring to test French opinion outside the Press, and here I find the position far more hopeful. There are many Frenchmen of influence in Paris who are weighing carefully the words which President Wilson spoke in their Chamber on Feb. 3. They are beginning to see that another treaty of Peace which like those of the past contains the seeds of a future war will be fatal to France. They are beginning to see that in the event of the Congress of Paris ending in such a treaty France will inevitably be crushed by the burden of armaments. They are beginning to appreciate the truth of President Wilson's words that "the sacrifices which might be demanded under the League are as nothing to those which would be required without."

COULON OF CONSCRIPTION.

Even find the opinion being more and more generally expressed that the abolition of Conscription in time of peace is a necessity for France. At the same time, there is almost universal agreement that the principle that every able bodied man is liable to serve his country must be retained for use in emergency, and an equally universal bewilderment as to how France is to keep up any Army at all without conscription.

The state of mind of the Frenchmen of to-day is that of a group of innocent men who have been condemned to imprisonment for life, and after serving more than forty years of their sentence, suddenly find themselves free, with their late gaoler at their mercy. At first all are bewildered, and have no thought but revenge. They cannot believe that the gaoler can ever be anything but a gaoler, and they can hardly credit the fact that they are free. Then gradually some of the group begin to understand their position, and to realise the possibilities of a new life; but time is needed before all of even the majority reach that stage. I believe a change is coming over French opinion, but it is coming slowly, and therefore, for France, too an interval for reflection before the great question of the settlement with Germany is reached should be beneficial.

Once France grasps the fact that she is in much greater

LEAGUE CRICKET.

MANCHESTERS. v. R.G.A.

Owing to a few members of the Manchester and the R.G.A. going home by the A.S. Antiochus, the League fixture between the Manchester and the R.G.A. was played off yesterday on the Craigengower Club ground. The Manchester succeeded in defeating the R.G.A., who were not favourites, and were expected to come out of the ordeal with flying colours. It will be interesting to watch how the Manchester will deport themselves in the forthcoming matches. The League table to-day stands thus:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
Civil Services	14	9	3	2	29
R.G.A.	13	8	2	3	27
Manchester	14	8	4	2	26
Craigengower	15	7	7	1	22
Kowloon	12	6	5	1	19
C.R.C.	13	5	5	3	18
University	13	4	4	5	17
Navy	13	1	8	4	7
R.E.	13	1	11	1	4

Going in on a batman's wicket the Manchester did not fare at all well, the first three wickets falling at 5, 10 and 15. Lieut. Cavenaugh and Lt. Col. Harvey coming to the rescue, rushed the score to 51. The Manchester's innings closed at 90, their notable individual score being 30 runs piled by Lieut. Cavenaugh.

The R.G.A.'s were deprived of Sharman, one of their best men, who is at present in hospital. Their best individual score was 17 by Br. Bowerman. The following are the scores:—

MANCHESTERS.	
Pte. Walker, b Athorne	4
Cpl. Horrocks, b Athorne	3
2/Lt. Cavenaugh, b Sharp	30
R. S. M. Keenan, b Baines	1
Lt. Col. R. K. Harvey, b Sharp	11
Sgt. Hall, b Athorne	6
Capt. Brandle, not out	25
Lt. Cpt. Deakin, run out	2
Sgt. Bird, b Baines	0
R.Q.M.S. Allan, c Colman, b Baines	0
Sgt. Clarke, c Drummond, b Baines	0
Extras	8
Total	90

Bowling.					
		O.	M.	R.	W.
Baines	10.3	3	17	4
Athorne	...	12	2	39	3
Sharp	7	2	21	2
Bowerman	...	2	0	5	0

R. G. A.	
Sgt. Talfourd, b Allan	7
Cpl. Mann, run out	10
Sgt. Athorne, b.w. Hall	3
Gr. Sharp, b Allan	15
Sgt. Drummond, b Allan	2
Gr. Turley, b Cavenaugh	11
Lt. Colman, b Cavenaugh	1
Lt. Sutherland, c Walker, b Cavenaugh	0
Br. Bowerman, b Allan	0
Lt. Torr, run out	17
Gr. Baines, not out	2
Extras	3
Total	71

Bowling				
		O.	M.	R. W.
Allan	...13.2	2	30	
Hall	... 8	0	22	1
Cavanaugh	... 5	1	16	2

danger of the isolation, which she dreads in face of seventy-five million Germans if she stands for a peace on the old lines, than if she moderates her claims against Germany, in so far as these claims conflict with the principles of the League of Nations, and helps wholeheartedly to make the League a really effective power for the world's good the biggest cloud on the peace horizon will have disappeared.—*Daily News.*

COALITION S. O. S.

"DEARTH OF BRAINS AND
ABILITY."

Can the country afford to let Mr. Asquith and his lieutenants stand aside in the critical time, both at home and abroad, through which it is passing?

The *British Weekly*, which still strongly supports the Lloyd George Government, asks the question in a closely-reasoned article and answers it with an emphatic "No."

The outstanding fact in the present situation, it says, is the need and dearth of brains and first-class ability in the Coalition, as at present constituted.

"The Northcliffe Press attacks Mr. Austen Chamberlain and Mr. Walter Long. It is superfluous to say that these worthy gentlemen are not distinguished for brilliant ability. That everyone will admit. But who are to take their places? The question is unanswered and almost unanswerable as things are. Mr. Garvin would have Sir Robert Horne removed from the Ministry of Labour. Suppose he were removed, who is the Labour man able and willing to do the work against the will of his party? We confess we cannot name him."

"The Opposition in Parliament, consisting of the Asquith Liberals and the Labour Party, must be asked for their help and on patriotic grounds, if on no other, they must be ready to give it. We do not mean by this that they should join the Coalition Government. But we venture to suggest that they should not impair the strength of the Coalition and the unity of the nation by holding aloof."

"If Mr. Asquith and his principal lieutenants who are out of Parliament belonged to the present Government the gain would be immense and the heavy loads that oppress us would be more easy to bear. To put it in the concrete, take Mr. Asquith. Who could represent his country better on the League of Nations? There are governing men who surpass him in initiative and in driving power. Is there anyone who equals him in judicial power? His marvellous memory, his strong grasp, his judicial mind, give his opinion a weight which is at least equal to that of any man of our time. When the permanent League of Nations is working, why should not he and some of the best of those who think with him take a part?"

"Not less important would be the services of men truly representative of Labour. The Asquith Liberals and the Labourists could, without any compromise of principle, or without breaking with any friends, take such part as might be assigned to them in the great tasks of pacification at home and abroad. We need not say much about the place to which they would be entitled in a great Labour Board. We are not saying that they are anxious for employment in one way or in another. But we do believe and are very sure that they love their country as warmly as any, and that they will respond to the summons at whatever sacrifice. Let them have the summons."

The *British Weekly* points out that it is mere folly to talk as if the small number of Asquith Liberals at present in the House of Commons in any way represents the powerful Liberal forces outside. It is certain the mind of the Prime Minister is that the demand for more brain power can only be met by using liberal-ly the resource of all parties, even of those who refused to give their aid to a Coalition Government.

TRADE WITH GERMANY.

INTERESTING REPORT
FROM HOLLAND.

The Hague, Feb. 6.—The *Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant* publishes a long article on the Netherlands' overseas trade, criticizing the maintenance of commercial restrictions and the black list by the associated Governments. This cannot exist much longer, the paper says, as pressure for more commercial freedom is noticeable in the allied countries, especially America and Japan.

The paper argues that as soon as one allied country commences unrestricted trading others will have to follow in order to compete and not lose their place in the world market. Already several American and Japanese who are important business men in their respective countries, the paper continues, are putting out feelers in order to form new connections in Holland and thus come into touch with the commercial world of the central powers. The paper argues that this attitude will force other powers who imbibed ideas of boycotting the central powers to modify their tactics.

"Should America and Japan have an advantage as regards future commerce communication with the central powers then England will be obliged to change her policy in her own interests," it concluded.

An influential financier, speaking to the *New York Times* correspondent, also asserted that several influential American and Japanese business men were in Holland especially for the formation of relations with Dutch banks and to be ready for commerce when peace comes.

"Germany," he said, "needs fresh capital worse than anything else, and America is the country to supply it. Americans are clever and mean to have a group prepared ready to spring in as soon as peace is signed, but Japan will be an active competitor."

The *Weser Zeitung* says many Germans are too depressed at the outcome of the war to believe that there is anything more to hope for from abroad. This depression, it argues, is exaggerated. In Japan German prestige and influence are increasing and more German is taught and spoken than ever before, especially among the bourgeois classes, who intend to become merchants, and a German missionary writes that he never had so many Japanese pupils. The paper pretends that German influence is equally puissant in China.

According to the *Maasbode*, negotiations are about to be opened between delegates of German industry and the Netherlands Government for export of iron to Germany.

FELL INTO BOILING BEER.

Falling into a brewer's vat filled with boiling beer, Arthur Tharby, aged 15, of Clarence-street, Nottingham, was so badly scalded that the skin dropped off the whole of his body. He had been left to clean up at the Forest Tavern Brewhouse when he slipped into the copper of boiling beer. At the inquest recently a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

A FORTUNE FROM INK.

Mr. Henry Charles Stephens, of Cholderton, Salisbury, and Avenue House, Finchley, N., founder and head of Henry C. Stephens, ink manufacturers, left estate of the value of £297,313 16s. 7d., of which £178,221 1s. 3d. is net personally. The testator gives the Avenue House property to the Finchley Urban Council for the use and enjoyment of the public for ever, and the parish hall and lands at Cholderton to the local Council there for like purposes.

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SOLUTION.

The following is transmitted through the wireless stations of the Russian Government:—
Moscow, Feb. 5.—To All: The Commissary of Foreign Affairs has sent to the Governments of the Entente a radio telegram in which he announces that the Soviet Government is willing to begin conversations with the Governments of the Entente with the object of the cessation of military activities.

The Soviet Government announces that it is willing to acknowledge its financial obligations with regard to creditors belonging to the Governments of the Entente besides guaranteeing the payment of interest on its debts by a certain quantity of raw materials. The Soviet Government is likewise willing to put concessions in the mines, forests, etc., at the disposal of the citizens

of Entente Governments provided the social-economic order of Soviet Russia is not affected by internal disorders connected with these concessions.

The extent to which the Soviet Government is prepared to meet the Entente will depend on the military position in relation to that of the Entente Governments, and it must be emphasised that this position improves every day.

On the principles indicated, the Soviet Government, prepared to begin conversations immediately on the Prince's Islands or in any other place, requests the Governments of the Entente to inform them at once where, when, and by what route to send their delegates.

FAMOUS ASTRONOMER DEAD.
The death is announced from Cambridge (Mass.) of Mr. E. C. Pickering, Director of Harvard College Astronomical Observatory and a member of the British Astronomical Society. The deceased in 1899 discovered the ninth satellite and later the tenth satellite of Saturn.

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